

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSM-03 SCCT-01 SY-05

SAM-01 SAB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /111 W

----- 011485

R 161605Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6127

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAIRO 10991

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EG, LY

SUBJECT: SOVIETS INCREASINGLY IMPLICATED IN ANTI-QADHAFI CAMPAIGN

REF: CAIRO 10942

SUMMARY: EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN OF OUTRAGE AGAINST QDHAFI ACTIONS AND
EFFORT TO REASSURE POULACE THAT GOE WILL BRING AN END TO
THEM CONTINUES APACE. NEW ELEMENT IS EXTENT TO WHICH SOVIET
UNION BEING IMPLICATED AS QADHAFI BEDFELLOW. STRONG ACTION
AGAINST QADHAFI WOULD BE WIDELY SUPPORTED. END SUMMARY.

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1. PRESIDENT SADAT'S STATEMENT IN OMAN GIVEN PROMINENT

TREATMENT IN ALL PAPERS: "I REPEAT AGIN TODAY THAT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED IN SUDAN AND INCIDENTS WHICH HE (QADHAFI) TRYING TO CREATE IN EGYPT, THE LAST OF WHICH HAPPENED YESTERDAY, QADHAFI WILL NOT GET AWAY WITH HIS CRIMES THIS TIME. HE MUST SHOULDER THE CONSEQUENCES OF WHAT HE DOES."

2. PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT BUTTRESSED BY URGENT AND IMPORTANT MEETING WHICH TOOK PLACE EVENING AUGUST 15 WHEN ACTING PRESIDENT HUSNI MUBARAK CAME FROM ALEXANDRIA TO CAIRO AND HELD "LONG VERY IMPORTANT MEETING" WITH PRIME MINISTER SALIM AND DEP RIMIN/MINWAR GAMASY. PHOTO OF MEETING CARRIED FRONT PAGE ALL PAPERS. ALTHOUGH SUBJECT NOT REVEALED CLEAR IMPLICATION IS IT WAS LIBYA.

3. LIBYAN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY SOVIETS. IN ADDITION TO YESTERDAY'S CHARGE THAT EXPLOSIVES USED IN AUGUST 8 BOMBING WERE OF SOVIET MANUFACTURE (REFTTEL) SOVIETS NOW BEING IMPLICATED IN OTHER WAYS.

A. ALEXANDRIA BOMBING. INVESTIGATION OF AUGUST 14 ALEXANDRIA TRAIN BOMBING CONTINUING. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE SAYS HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED EXPLOSIVE CAPABLE OF SHATTERING STEEL AND SCATTERING IT OVER BROAD AREA WAS USED AND THAT IT SIMILAR TO THAT USED BY LIBYAN INTELLIGENCE AGENT IN AUGUST 8 BOMBING;

B. INTERVIEW WITH SECURITY OFFICIAL. AHRAH CARRIES LONG INTERVIEW WITH STATE SECURITY OFFICIAL GENERAL HASAN ABU PASHA ACCOMPANIED WITH PICTURE OF BADLY INJURED CITIZEN FROM AUGUST 14 EXPLOSION. GENERAL STATES THAT QADHAFI CLAIM THAT THERE UNREST IN EGYPT AND BOMBINGS DONE BY EGYPTIANS IS TOTALLY FALSE AS EVIDENCED BY FACT THAT "MANY" EGYPTIANS RECRUITED BY QADHAFI FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS HAVE VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED AND CONFESSED TO AUTHORITIES. AS A REWARD THEY HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO KEEP LIBYAN PAYMENT (COMMENT: AN OBVIOUS ICENTIVE FOR OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE). GENERAL PASHA ENUMERATED METHODS QADHAFI HAS RESORTED TO AS: (1) SABOTAGE THROUGH AGENTS TO CREATE INTERNAL INSTABILITY. THIS HAS HOWEVER HAD OPPOSITE EFFECT AND EGYPTIAN PEOPLE ARE NOW COMPLETELY FED UP WITH QADHAFI; (2) SLANDEROUS PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST GOE LEADERSHIP IN LIBYAN MEDIA AND THROUGH PAMPHLETS
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INSIDE EGYPT THAT ARE PRINTED AND MAILED FROM ABROAD OR PRINTED IN "LIBYAN AND SOME SOCALIST BLOC DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN CAIRO; " (3) EARMARKING OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN NAME OF AN EGYPTIAN (UNSPECIFIED) TO FINANCE AN ARMED (NOT MILITARY) COUP IN CONNECTION WITH WHICH TWO PERSONS ALREADY ARRESTED AND BEING INVESTIGATED; (4) CONRETE EVIDENCE THAT LIBYAN LEADERSHIP HAS CONTACTED INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST GANGS TO CARRY OUT SCHEMES IN EGYPT, THUS FAR WITHOUT SUCCESS;

AND (5) ATTEMPT TO MAGNIFY EGYPTIAN PROBLEMS, WHICH ARE NOT DIFFERENT FROM THOSE IN OTHER COUNTRIES, TO CAUSE UNREST. GENERAL CONCLUDED WITH WARNING THAT ANY POLITICAL ACTIVITY MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE THREE GROUPS FROMED WITHIN ASU AND STRESSED THAT ANY UNDERGROUND POLITICAL ACTIVITY WOULD BE CONSIDERED ILLEGAL AND THOSE QUILTY WOULD BE ARRESTED. STATE SECURITY HAS INFORMATION ON ATTEMPTS AT SUCH ACTIVITY INCLUDING GROUPS ATTEMPTING TO CAUSE SECTARIAN (I.E. MUSLIM-COPT) DIFFERENCES AND SITUATION FIRMLY UNDER CONTROL.

C. GUMHURRIYA AND AHRAH, CITING DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN LONDON, CARRY STORIES THAT LIBYAN AGENTS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO RECRUIT EGYTIAN SAILORS IN EUROPE TO HAVE THEM SMUGGLE MATERIALS TO EGYPT INCLUDING EXPLSOVIES.

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D. TO ASSURE THAT EGYPTIAN SPORTS FANS ALSO ENCOURAGED TO SHARE IN OUTCRY AGAINST QADHAFI, GUMHURRIYA HEADLINES ON SPORTS PAGE THREAT TO EGYPTIAN NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM NOW IN YUGOSLAVIA. ONLY SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IS THAT A LIBYAN CAME TO TEAM'S HOTEL AND ASKED DETAILED QUESTIONS ABOUT MEMBERS AND PROGRAM.

E. ALL PAPERS REPORT PERPETRATOR OF ATTEMPTED BOMB EXPLOSION AT A GAS STATION AT MERSA MATRUH LAST YEAR HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND CONFESSED. THE ACCUSED IS SALAH YUNIS WHO WAS A STUDENT AT TEACHER'S COLLEGE IN BAIDA, LIBYA. AFTER ATTEMPTED BOMBING HE RETURNED TO LIBYA BUT THINKING CASE CLOSED CAME BACK TO EGYPT. HE CONFESSED TO HAVING BEEN PAID
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200 LIBYAN POUNDS BY LIBYAN INTELLIGENCE.

4. REPRESENTATIVES OF ASU YOUTH ARE PREPARING DOUCMENT SIGNED BY 100,00 YOUNG MEN AFFIRMING THEIR FAITH IN SADAT'S LEADERSHIP AND INTER ALIA CONDEMNING QADHAFI SABOTAGE AGAINST ARAB NATION AND ASKING YOUNG PEOPLE OF LIBYA TO OPPOSE " THIS DANGEROUS TYRANT."

5. ALL PAPERS REPORT QADHAFI DID NOT ARRIVE IN COLOMBO AUGUST 15 AS SCHEDULED AND STATE CAUSE OF DELAY NOT KNOWN.

6. AHRAH EDITORIAL EMPHASIZES SERIOUSNESS OF QADHAFI'S CRIMES AGAINST ARAB NATION AND THE DISGRACE OF USING MONEY AND MECHANISMS OF LIBYA TO TURN HIS COUNTRY INTO MACHINE FOR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM THAT INDISCRIMINATELY MURDERS AND SPREADS TERRORISM EVERYWHERE.

7. EVENT POSSIBLY RELATING TO LIBYA IS REPORTED ARRIVAL OF SUDANESE MILITARY DELEGATION IN CAIRO AUGUST 15.

8. EDITORIAL BY MOHAMED AL HAYAWAAN IN GUMHURRIYA CLAIMS THAT LIBYAN PLOTTING IS TOO CLEVER FOR LIBYANS TO CARRY OUT AND PLANNING MUST HAVE BEEN DONE BY EXPERTS FROM STATE USED TO COMMITTING SUCH CRIMES. EDITORIAL THEN DIRECTLY NAMES SOVIETS AS ENEMIES OF MAY 15 AND OCTOBER 6 (DATES WHICH SYMBOLIZE EGYPTIAN INDEPENDENCE FROM SOVIETS) AND SAYS SOVIETS WILL CONTINUE TO BE SO AS LONG AS EGYPT IS AGAINST COMMUNISM AND UNLESS AGENTS OF SOVIETS COME BACK TO POWER. "USSR WILL NEVER BE THE FRIEND WE WANT BECAUSE IT INSISTS ON BEING LORD AND MASTER. WE HAVE NO REASON TO COMPLIMENT USSR BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT YET REVEALED WHAT SOVIETS OFFICIALS DID IN CAIRO A SHORT TIME AGO AND WHAT THEY DID TO OUR SONS IN MOSCOW A FEW DAYS AGO. SOVIETS WANT ONLY THOSE

WHO EXECUTE THEIR POLITIES AND OBJECTIVES TO BE IN POWER.
WE MUST OPPOSE THIS PLOTTING AND UNITE AGAINST MARXIST
INFLUENCE AND ATHEISM."

9. COMMENT: EGYPTIAN PUBLIC'S OUTRAGE OVER QADHAFI'S ACTIONS
IS REAL AND MEDIA CAMPAIGN AND REVELATIONS OF NEW PLOTS AND
SOVIET INVOLVEMENT SERVE TO KEEP IT AT HIGH PITCH. INCREASING
NUMBER OF OUR CONTACTS ARE NOW SAYING THAT GOE MUST REACT
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IN A MANNER THAT CHASTIZES QADHAFI SEVERELY AND SADAT IS ON
RECORD THAT HE WILL DO SO. STRONG ACTION WOULD BE PARTICULARLY
WELCOME TO HIGH LEVEL GOE OFFICIALS AND TO COPTIC COMMUNITY,
BUT MOST PROFESS PERPLEXITY OVER WHAT EXACTLY EGYPT CAN DO.
CAIRO BASED JOURNALISTS ARE BUSILY ENGAGED IN SPECULATING
ON POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN COURSES OF ACTION.

10. SOVIETS MUST BE LIVID ABOUT GROWING CAMPAIGN AGAINST
THEM AS QADHAFI'S BEDFELLOW, BUT THERE IS CERTAINLY WIDESPREAD
BELIEF THAT SOVIETS ARE SWORN ENEMY OF SADAT REGIME AND IT
IS SMALL STEP FOR GOE TO VIEW THEM AS PARTNER IN QADHAFI'S
OUTRAGES. WE ARE PUZZLED BY REFERENCES TO RECENT ACTIONS
BY SOVIET OFFICIALS IN CAIRO AND MOSCOW AGAINST SONS OF EGYPT,
BUT SPECULATE IT COULD REFER TO SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE
YOUTH GROUPS AND MILITARY.
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